



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

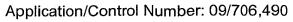


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
09/706,490	11/03/2000	Rainer Bruhn	VAL-500-A	6485		
7:	590 10/16/2002					
Young & Basile PC 3001 West Big Beaver Road Suite 624			EXAMINER			
			LE, DANG D			
Troy, MI 4808	84-3107		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
			2834	2834		
		DATE MAILED: 10/16/2002				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

₹ % .			(Accessed		XV-			
		Application	No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary		09/706,490		BRUHN				
		Examiner		Art Unit				
		Dang D Le		2834	_			
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication a r Reply	appears on the o	cover sheet with th	e correspondence ad	dress			
THE N - Exter after - If the - If NO - Failui - Any n	DRTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REF MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION isions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reperiod for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period for reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by state the period by the Office later than three months after the maid of patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	N. 1.136(a). In no even reply within the statuto od will apply and will a	t, however, may a reply be ory minimum of thirty (30) expire SIX (6) MONTHS fi ation to become ABANDO	e timely filed days will be considered timely om the mailing date of this or NED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	y. ommunication.			
1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed on O	4 September 2	<u>002</u> .					
2a) <u></u> ☐	This action is FINAL . 2b)⊠	This action is n	on-final.					
3) <u></u> Dispositi	Since this application is in condition for allo closed in accordance with the practice undo on of Claims	wance except er <i>Ex par</i> te <i>Qu</i>	for formal matters, <i>ayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11	prosecution as to th , 453 O.G. 213.	e merits is			
4)🖂	Claim(s) 1-18,20 and 21 is/are pending in the	he application.						
	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withd	rawn from con	sideration.					
5)□	Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)⊠	6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-18,20 and 21</u> is/are rejected.							
7)□	Claim(s) is/are objected to.							
8)[Claim(s) are subject to restriction and	d/or election red	quirement.					
Applicati	on Papers							
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.								
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.								
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).								
11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.								
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.								
12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.								
•	ınder 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120			2() () ((2)				
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).								
a)	☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:							
	1. Certified copies of the priority docume							
	2. Certified copies of the priority docume		• "					
* 5	3. Copies of the certified copies of the p application from the International See the attached detailed Office action for a	Bureau (PCT F	Rule 17.2(a)).		Stage			
14)[] <i>A</i>	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for dome	estic priority un	der 35 U.S.C. § 11	9(e) (to a provisiona	l application).			
) The translation of the foreign language Acknowledgment is made of a claim for dome	•						
Attachmen								
2) Notic	ce of References Cited (PTO-892) ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s		4) Interview Sumr 5) Notice of Inform 6) Other:	nary (PTO-413) Paper No nal Patent Application (PT	o(s) 'O-152)			



DETAILED ACTION

Request for Continue Examination (RCE)

1. The request filed on 9/4/02 for an RCE under 37 CFR 1.114 based on parent Application No. 09/706,490 is acceptable and an RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 20 and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The indicated allowability of claims 4, 7-10, and 13-18 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Bresson et al. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 5. Claims 1-10, 13-18, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lagarde et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,857,553) in view of Bresson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,848,433).



Regarding claim 1, Lagarde et al. shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention except for an annular element mounted free of torsion on the gear box (1) and positioned between the wrap spring (9) and the gear box (1), the annular element diverting into the gear box a moment of torsion introduced by the driven shaft.

Bresson et al. show an annular element (12) mounted free of torsion on the gear box (1) and positioned between the wrap spring (11) and the gear box (1), the annular element diverting into the gear box a moment of torsion introduced by the driven shaft for the purpose of locking the driven shaft.

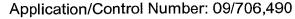
Since Lagarde et al. and Bresson et al. are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include an annular element between the gear box and the wrap spring as taught by Bresson et al. for the purpose discussed above.

Regarding claim 2, it is noted that Bresson et al. also show inner side of the gear box having an inner toothing (near 9a, Figure 3) and a jacket surface of the annular element facing toward the inner side of the gear box having a corresponding inner toothing.

Regarding claim 3, it is noted that Bresson et al. also show the annular element (12) can be locked into the gearbox.

Regarding claim 4, the claim is similar to claim 1 except that it further recites the annular element having one locking hooks and locking indentations on its periphery



which can be engaged together with one of locking indentations and locking hooks respectively located on the inner side of the gear box. It is noted that Bresson et al. also show a similar structure in Figure 3 near numerals 9 and 9a.

Regarding claim 5, it is noted that Bresson et al. also show the planetary gear drive having a sun wheel as the gear input shaft (4b) and the side the sun wheel facing toward the wrap spring having a plurality of lands curved in cross section (10d, 10e), around which the wrap spring is positioned.

Regarding claim 6, it is noted that Bresson et al. also show the planetary gear drive having planets (5), which roll off on the inner toothing on the inner side of the gearbox.

Regarding claim 7, the claim is similar to claims 1 and 5. Therefore, it is also rejected.

Regarding claims 8-10 and 13-18, it is noted that Bresson et al. also shows all of the limitations of the claimed inventions.

Regarding claim 20, the claim is similar to claim 1. Therefore, it is also rejected.

Regarding claim 21, the claim is similar to claim 5. Therefore, it is also rejected.

6. Claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lagarde et al. in view of Bresson et al. as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Ozaki (4,587,450).

Regarding claim 11, the assembly of Lagarde et al. modified by Bresson et al. shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention except for the sun wheel having a core, the core and the sun wheel comprising different materials.



Ozaki shows the sun wheel (4) having a core (5), the core and the sun wheel comprising different materials for the purpose of making a rotor with gear.

Since Lagarde et al., Bresson et al. and Ozaki are all from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to make the sun wheel with a core and the core and the sun wheel with different materials as taught by Ozaki for the purpose discussed above.

Regarding claim 12, it is noted that Ozaki also shows the core (Figure 6b) having one of a hexagonal cross section and a Torx cross section.

Information on How to Contact USPTO

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-0156. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

DDL October 11, 2002

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Lang L. C